A few more applications claiming exemption on the same ground are also pending final decision since certain details and clarifications in this regard are awaited from the concerned manufacturing companies. The criteria being applied by this Committee is the same as was recommended in the Supplementary Report of the Kelkar Committee.

Government have now taken decisions on all the major recommendtions of the Supplementary Report of the Kelkar Committee.

Development of Cochin Airport for operating airbus services

668. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop Cochin airport for operating airbus services; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Coal Production Target

669. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the target for the production of coal in the country fixed for the year 1990-91;

(b) whether the target for the year 1989-90 has been fully achieved; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The target for production of coal in 1990-91 has been projected as 221 million tonnes in the Annual Plan of the Department of Coal.

(b) The target for coal production in the current year (i.e. 1989-90) was fixed at 209.50 million tonnes. During the first 11 months of the year (i.e. April, 89 to February, 1990) total production of coal has been 177.10 million tonnes against cumulative target of 187.42 million tonnes.

(c) The shortfall in production has been due to loss of production in two subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. (*viz.*, ECL and BCCL) and also in Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., on account of power failure, non-availability of land, localised strikes, absenteeism, breakdown of machinery, late commissioning of projects etc.

Oil Exploration in the Bay of Bengal

670. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to undertake intensive oil exploration programme in the Bay of Bengal Basin during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, what are the details of the areas earmarked for oil exploration in the Bengal Basin; and

(c) what is the total amount of investment proposed to be made for this purpose ?